

Appl. No. : PCT/EP2003/014567  
Filed : December 18, 2003

## REMARKS

The claims have been amended to conform with the rules of practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The specification has been amended to recite the prior U.S. application, International Application and priority application. The word "CLAIMS" has been deleted and substituted by "WHAT IS CLAIMED IS" so that subsequently appearing claims will be the object of a sentence as specified by M.P.E.P. section 608.01(m). As a result of this preliminary amendment, Claims 21-22 have been added and Claims 1-11, 18 and 20 have been amended. Claims 16, 17, and 19 are cancelled. Accordingly, Claims 1-15, 18, and 20-22 are presented for examination. No new matter is being added herewith.

### Abstract

An Abstract on a separate sheet is included herewith.

### **Conclusion**

Should there be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned agent at the telephone number appearing below. Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 15, 2005

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